

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
(430th CIC Detachment)
LAND SALZBURG SUB-DETACHMENT

APO 541

U.S. ARMY

ACTION:	IB. CIC IC OPNS
INFO:	HARTEL IB CIC IC OPNS
RECORDS FILE	

CIC Salzburg
Ref. No. S-6729

HFW/mk
Special Projects Branch
6 March 1950

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SUBJECT INDEX
Master File
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CDDI Records

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: VESTNIK (Messenger), Anti-Communist
Russian Language Newspaper published
in Salzburg, Gaisbergstr. 9

RE : Investigation

1. Pursuant to instructions from the Chief, CIC, Land Salzburg Sub-Detachment, an investigation was conducted to determine the present owner, publisher and editor of the VESTNIK, a local Russian language publication. Reference is made to Disposition Form, ODDI (OSS), Hq USFA, dated 23 January 1950, Subject: "Soviet Complaint", with attached letter (Annex "A") from the Soviet Representation Mission to Colonel Schmidt, concerning VESTNIK, and attached articles (Annex "B") published in VESTNIK referred to this sub-detachment via Minuta 2 in file 430th CIC (Operations), dated 27 January 1950.

2. Investigation by members of the "VESTNIK" editorial staff regarding the history, ownership and editor of the subject newspaper disclosed the following information:

a. The predecessor of the VESTNIK was the Information Bulletin, first published on 21 June 1945 in the Reichsbau School, Salzburg, as an anti-Communist publication of a daily newspaper. The editorial staff consisted of 12 persons including one KLEENSKIY Pavol J., the former chief editor. KLEENSKIY was a White Russian emigrant from Yugoslavia who had since emigrated to the US. Initially the Information Bulletin consisted of four pages, sold for 20 Pfennig per copy, and had a circulation of approximately 150 copies daily. The main purpose of the Information Bulletin was to give the Russian refugees, who in most cases did not understand German, objective information about current political events. In July 1945 the publication facilities of the Information Bulletin were transferred to DP Camp Putsch, Salzburg, where they remained until early

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March 1949, when publication of the paper was discontinued by order of US authorities as a result of Soviet intervention. During the early part of March 1946, when MUSCHERON Nicolaus became the technical editor of Information Bulletin, the paper was expanded to six pages, and the price was raised to 60 Groschen per copy. In the autumn of 1946 the paper was again expanded to its current size, eight pages. The circulation in 1947-1948 reached 5000 copies. When the Information Bulletin was discontinued in early March 1949, the circulation had dropped to approximately 750 copies. During 1948 the publishing facilities of the Information Bulletin were also utilized in printing numerous Russian language scripts, bulletins, school books, etc.

b. In early March 1949 publication of the Information Bulletin was discontinued, as stated above, and the newspaper was reorganized as an Austrian-sponsored publication under the name WESTLICHT. The first issue of WESTLICHT was published on 17 March 1949 as an Austrian licensed newspaper with offices at Ammerbacherstrasse 15, Salzburg. The first responsible editor of WESTLICHT was Dr. Herbert KRAMER, current leader of the VDU. (Agent's Note: It is known that Dr. KRAMER acted as a front for the publication, just as HEBER does now. Technically WESTLICHT is an Austrian publication and complies with Austrian Press Laws.) KRAMER soon requested to be relieved of newspaper editorial responsibilities, and a new responsible editor was selected, Dr. ERNST WURZ, an Austrian national residing on Sandergrasse 93, Salzburg. WURZ, a graduate of a commercial school in Gmunden, Austria, is currently a music student at the Mozarteum, Salzburg. He is approximately 27 years of age and does not speak Russian. On 15 August 1949 the publishing facilities of the WESTLICHT were transferred to Gnadenbergstrasse 3, Salzburg, the current headquarters. The editorial staff of this paper consists of approximately four persons, and circulation has been reduced to approximately 1000 copies per day. The chief technical editor is MUSCHERON Nicolaus mentioned above. The WESTLICHT does not publish any editorial orthopedics but compiles current news articles from the following sources:

No sources

Agencies, Radio, Press, (e.g., - Deutsch-Amerikanischer Nachrichtendienst), Dr. WILHELM HABIGER, European edition, Chairman of the American Liaison Committee; Pauline LINDNER.

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4. The files of this Sub-Detachment contain the following

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a. Numerous references to KING Herbert Jr., leader of the YU, and KING David Mullerbach, [Colonel] chief of the Socialist Revolutionary Party.

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b. ZELENISKI Pavel is listed on SOL, CIC, Land Salzburg Sub-Department (Ref. No. 3-1324), dated 3 March 1948, Subject: "Hunger Strike and Day of Mourning at White Russian Assembly Center, Passau, Salzburg", as editor of Information Bulletin and co-signer of a telegram forwarded to President Truman protesting that P.O./IRG promises were not being fulfilled.

c. The files contain no additional pertinent information concerning other personalities mentioned in this report.

AGENCY NOTES:

a. Attention is invited to the fact that Russian refugees in DP Camp Farnach and Western section of Austria have available the objective newspaper VESTNIK, published and distributed by anti-Communist Russian DPs, as well as non-Communist Russian language newspapers such as ZHAYA, INDEZIA, ZEMLJA, and others distributed free of charge by representatives of the Soviet Mission, Salzburg. It is generally known that these papers contain distorted news reports and false accusations regarding prominent US government officials as individuals of "revolutionary personnel". Directly or indirectly, it can be more to bring about strained relations between the US and the governments than VESTNIK has accomplished during its entire period of existence.

b. Further attention is invited to the fact that VESTNIK is currently published in accordance with prevailing Austrian laws, with HUBER as the responsible chief editor and MYSHENKOV the technical associate editor. The fact that ZELENISKY was, MYSHENKOV is, and other Russian DPs will be affiliated with the editorial staff of VESTNIK is not considered to be a matter of concern to KIREEV, chief of the Soviet Mission, Salzburg. It is further pointed out that suspension of VESTNIK, an Austrian publication, cannot legally be accomplished solely by US authorities, but is a matter falling within the province of ACC jurisdiction. If publication of VESTNIK is to be discontinued because the editors, quote Colonel KIREEV, "violate the harmonious agreements between our governments", it is recommended that the ACC consider discontinuance of the SALZBURGER TAGBLATT, local EPOe publication, and other pro-Communist publications as well.

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of AFTR regarding the establishment of a
new AFTR liaison to cover by category of the
various AFTR organizations. AFTR has
been in a bind since the formation of
AFTR, the committee of AFTR, the
AFTR liaison, and AFTR's own
AFTR organization.

AFTR is organized as an independent
entity, is a separate body from AFTR, and
AFTR's own AFTR organization is
not under AFTR's control.

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